

# LIFE OF MONTY

#32

Somewhere in July or August, 1983

16 pages -  
65¢

No games - why not?

Let's see....it all started back in 1975, when I....I've done this already, haven't I? Yes, in issue 12, which is still available from me, but it'll cost you a fortune since it has 24 pages and I don't have any more of the original copies. Anyway, let's just say that my being here comes courtesy of, in order, Avalon Hill, Roy Henricks, Dick Martin John & Kathy, and others too numerous to mention.

Yes, this is the THIRD ANNIVERSARY ISSUE, albeit a bit late. And, believe it or not, people actually sent things in!! There's an article from Kathy Byrne on how good a Dip player you are, John Michalski came up with a MOS EISLEY SPACEPORT for this occasion, there may be one or two letters, including one from overseas, and, of course, my usual garbage, including DIP BOWL (Scott Hanson is excused from reading this), another installment in the DIP WARZ saga, and maybe a few new features.

Anyway, this is issue 32 of LIFE OF MONTY, brought to you all the way from the residence of Don Del Grande, your friendly neighborhood ~~spide~~ editor/publisher/typist, which happens to be at 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904, phone (415) 461-2693, but try to call between noon and midnight Pacific time (3 PM - 3 AM Eastern), OK? Not that I'm already loaded with phone calls....

JOHN MICHALSKI DEPARTMENT: I had four interviews for summer employment in the past two months - two from IBM, one from Hewlett-Packard, and one from Southern Pacific/SPRINT - and all four gave me the brush-off. No really big deal - as long as there are companies out there ready to give me a permanent job next year. Actually, IBM would have taken me, had it not been for a changeover in Berkeley from quarters to semesters which shortens the summer by four weeks.... And now it's time for....

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT is brought to you by anybody who'll hire me!!

For you Pete Tamlyn types, here's the latest report about SPI a/k/a TSR....a surprising thing came in my mailbox recently: an issue of STRATEGY & TACTICS without a game inside! No, it wasn't a mistake - TSR decided to only have four issues per year have games; the other two will probably be a combination of S&T and MOVES, since the first non-game issue (not numbered the same as the game issues) has an article on how to expand DESERT FOX to include the initial Italian retreat, and a few scenarios for MONMOUTH, including the "Molly Pitcher" scenario. Issue 92 came out at about the same time, featuring a solitaire game on Iwo Jima (it even has a rule covering the flag raising on Mount Suribachi). Also included is RICHARD BERG'S REVIEW OF GAMES.

ORIGINS is coming - but is it another Pacific fiasco? Not quite, but.... the latest issue of THE GENERAL did NOT have an ORIGINS pre-registration form in it! The only other time I remember this happening was for PACIFIC ORIGINS. And, in S&T, I saw ONE mention of ORIGINS - in an ad for the Charles Roberts Collection Auction. TSR did say that their Antietam game will be out by the end of summer, in time for GEN CON. (BATTLE OVER BRITAIN will not be out until after that - possibly held until 1984.)

I just received a call from Gary Coughlan - his article will be appearing in this issue! Seems he's been having some time troubles....fortunately, so have I, since my finals were June 6-11. (There's nothing worse than a 3-hour exam that begins Saturday morning at 8!)

Not even a PAGE 1 that's labelled  
as page one, even on the front cover

A few changes of address are in order:

SCOTT HANSON, 231 Oak Grove, Apt. 306, Minneapolis, MN 55403  
MARK MATUSCHAK, 1330 Commonwealth Avenue, Apt. 6, Boston, MA 02135  
PETER DOUBLEDAY, 502 Lordswood Road, Harborne, Birmingham B17 8AN,  
UNITED KINGDOM

Sure wish I knew Konrad Baumeister's address.... (I do! 1140 Parkview Lane,  
Hales Corners, WI 53130)  
(Reserved for advertising - By the way, that first game I  
reasonable rates) got was LUFTWAFFE....

Good night!

\*\*\*\*\*  
~ IT'S HIM AGAIN!

And now for a few words from the Institute for Diplomatic Studies....

PEERICON III - for those who take their Diplomacy seriously, but want to have fun, come celebrate Diplomacy's TWENTY-FIFTH anniversary at Peericon III, July 29-31, 1983

SPONSOR: IDS and San Diego Diplomacy Society

HOSTS: Mike Maston and Larry Peery

LOCATION: Forum Hall, University Towne Center, La Jolla, CA, located 15 miles north of San Diego at the junction of I-5 and La Jolla Village Drive, near the UC-San Diego campus.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

FRIDAY EVENING - No host BYOB open house at Larry Peery's, 4133 Kansas Street, Apartment 1-P, San Diego.

SATURDAY - Registration begins at 9 AM  
The first round lasts from 10 AM until 10 PM

SUNDAY - The second round runs from 10 AM until 6 PM  
Awards banquet begins at 7 PM

SOMEWHERE BETWEEN FRIDAY AND SUNDAY, INCLUSIVE -  
The final judging in the Chocolate Chip Cookie Contest  
San Diego Dip Society Officers Election  
Prizes & Surprises

**COSTS:**

Pre-registration is \$12, for both days  
Banquet tickets are available at the door for \$8  
Two motels are offering special con rates - contact Larry if you need a place to stay  
Anyone planning to arrive via train should get off at Del Mar

On hand for PIII will be many of the top PBM and FTF Dip players from last year's PI and PII, and survivors from April's MASTODONCON, all looking for glory or revenge.

This year's facility will be available both days without interruption and has room for 10, 12, or 2 simultaneous games. It's the best that Larry could find for the price, and should be ideal....

In addition, this year includes an Awards Banquet which will have the presentation of prizes and whatnot. In addition, entertainment featuring a wide variety of ~~talented~~ enthusiastic individuals will be there. The banquet is at - get this - Carlos Murphy's Irish Mexican Restaurant.

Send Larry a SASE (at PEERICON III, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102) and he'll send you the PIII flyer with more information.

And this year, there's no conflict with DIPCON....

Going somewhere? There's still MORE IDS stuff on the next page, you know.....now how can I fill this white space up? I went through all of the trouble to enable using up as much white as I could, and now this....

after I tell you that this is PAGE 2

And now....the nominees for the 1983 DON MILLER MEMORIAL AWARD for services rendered toward the hobby during 1982.

**MARK BERCH** (Alexandria, VA)

For service as chief organizer for DIPCON XV and Tournament Director, including designing the scoring system and organizing the panel discussion; for publication of DIPLOMACY DIGEST, which has reprinted many fine articles from the past for new audiences; for production of special publications such as the LEXICON OF DIPLOMACY; and Ombudsman services to the hobby.

This space had Kathy Byrne's name - but she has decided that she will not accept the award if she wins - she says that she doesn't deserve it. You know, I just realized that this issue may come out too late for you to vote anyway.... the winner will be announced at DIPCON somewhere near Detroit in late July.

**DON DITTER** (Florida, NY)

For service as Boardman Number Custodian during 1981-83; the assigning of Boardman Numbers to new sections of postal Diplomacy in North America; compiled statistics on completed games; and arranged for their publication in EVERYTHING, the BNC's official record.

**LEE KENDTER, SENIOR** (Philadelphia, PA)

For service as Miller Number Custodian during 1983; the assigning of Miller Numbers for postal variant Diplomacy games; compiling statistics on completed games; and for past service as Boardman Number Custodian and Ombudsman services to the hobby.

**ROD WALKER** (Encinitas, CA)

For service as President of the North American Diplomacy Federation; editor of DIPLOMACY WORLD from 1981 to the present; custodian of the North American Variant Bank; and for past service as Boardman and Miller Number Custodian, and designer of the ARDA Variant Catalogue.

**HOW TO VOTE:** Put your name, address, signature, and the person you are voting for, on some paper (postcards are OK), and send it to Larry Peery, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102, by July 4. Note: YOU DO NOT HAVE TO VOTE FOR ANY OF THE CANDIDATES. (I don't think....) BUT CAN WRITE IN SOMEBODY. (Any Robert Sacks, John Boardman, or Gary Coughlan fans out there?)

AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, how about sending in \$2 or so to Fred Davis Jr. to help pay for the memorial trophy??

T'S-AN-EXCELLENT-IDEA-OF-COURSE-YOU-CAN'T-AFFORD-IT-BUT-THE-OTHER-HOBBYISTS-WILL-



DIPLOMACY....for the TENTH MONTH, this is open! Signed up: Michalski, Brawner, Gardner, and Lucas. Please note that Jerry Lucas and Judy Winsome\* played two positions simultaneously in 1981AS for one season. Don't worry, though - Judy will not be called as a standby in this one!

\*they have the same address, although they may not be the same person

MASTERMIND.....STILL no takers! (Snif....) (Snif? Not much of a word)

SOURCE OF THE NILE.....I've heard some replies, but no actual takers yet. Get with it!

OTHER GAMES....See the next page for some ideas - forget about THIRD REICH and EMPIRES, though. I have enough headaches. I wonder what my Runestone Poll rating will be this time?

WHITE SPACE.....Needs filling! Especially small items at the bottom of pages. What good is 8 1/2 inches if most of it isn't used?

This is PAGE 3... where did the white space go?

It's almost time for ORIGINS....which means two famous LOM traditions are back! First....get out those wanted posters....look for those 'zines....yes, it's another LOM

REUNION

ALL YOU PUBBERS - TAKE NOTE!  
I'm looking for all possible accounts of this year's ORIGINS/DIPCON (any souvenir booklet this year?). If you happen to

publish one in your 'zine, send it to me and I'll pay for it - CASH. I already get the following: THE SHOGUN'S SWORD, GIVE ME A WEAPON, WHITESTONIA, EUROPA EXPRESS, THE BUZZARD'S BREATH, THE VOICE OF DOOM, EMPIRE, ENVOY, RETALIATION, and a few others which won't cover ORIGINS. That leaves a lot of 'zines out there - GRAUSTARK, for example. How about some action this year?

OK....now, I'm sure all of you are asking the most important question: "Say, Don, what new games interest you this year?" After all, ORIGINS is another one of those dates where the new stuff gets thrown at every gamer within reach. I'll wait for PACIFICON before actually buying, unlike last year (Dick Martin remembers well), but here's what I've heard from Avalon Hill....

Top of the list is definitely UP FRONT, a slightly simplified SQUAD LEADER using cards instead of counters and maps. What true SQUAD LEADER aficionado - sr, fan - actually, NUT - could pass this up?

Next in line is something called (I think) B-17, QUEEN OF THE SKIES, although I'm not QUITE sure just what this is! It has something to do with Europe in WWII - similar to AIR FORCE, perhaps? Or more like LUFTWAFFE?

Nothing else sounds interesting - some Napoleonic stuff, I think, plus AH's long awaited entry into the FRP market. In other words, a role-playing game from a company who once was saturating "roll playing"! Oh, and the usual sports games - tennis, this time. I want to know whether it differentiates between grass and clay surfaces - otherwise, it's not much of a game, is it? (Well, I suppose that's what ALL-STAR REPLAY is for....)

As usual, TSR has decided, from what I've heard, or, more precisely, haven't heard, to stay away from ORIGINS. John Sapienza, in issue 94 of ALARMS & EXCURSIONS, has a lot to say on the TSR/GAMA disagreement. (I had to sneak in a plug for A&E somehow....available at finer hobby stores near you, or write to Lee Gold, 3965 Alla Road, Los Angeles, CA 90066 for details.) Therefore, I haven't the slightest idea when their stuff will be available, other than what's been previously said.

For other companies, I just show up & buy up. That's how I got TWO OCEAN WAR - a modified combination of WAS & VITP that leaves out a few things....for example: each player gets two maps - Atlantic & Pacific - and simultaneously plots movement by placing the ships in any sea area, previous control of the area, or any other areas in the way, notwithstanding (i.e. you can move from any area to any other at any time, with a few political considerations; for example, only Russians in the Black Sea); also, there's no "disabled" roll possible - it's hit-or-miss. The counters cover just about every ship present from just about every navy, and are plastic.

Speaking of cons, you can see me at PACIFICON this Labor Day weekend in San Mateo - and I'll make sure my camera works this time! Last year, I had some great pictures that were going into LOM - lots of Dip players (fortunately, Doug Beysrlin had his, and pictures were in EFGIART), plus some SCA action - but the film got exposed because it snapped when being rewound....cheap American film....

MORE FILLER....how about a plug for a British 'zine? PSYCHO, from Mike Deam, Rm. 38B West Park Hall, 319 Perth Road, DUNDEE DD2 1NN, SCOTLAND. Issue 6 had 20 8 1/2 by 5 1/2 pages in reduced green type, for 60p, or 9 quibzogs for ETs. Interesting letter column. I do have one gripe - my sample was sent via surface mail, which took SEVEN WEEKS! (I assume it's much quicker to the Eastern US & Canada.)

just enough room to say... PAGE 4

AND NOW for the big news.....THE ARTICLES have arrived! And to start off....

## HOW DO YOU RATE AS A DIPLOMACY PLAYER?

by Kathy Byrne

Sorry to disappoint you, Don; I know when you requested big name article writers you were expecting a Rod Walker or a Mark Berch ((those names aren't big....look how many letters are in Konrad Baumeister or Pete Doubleday))....well, figuring they won't even bother to answer your request to fill this Third Anniversary issue of yours, I decided to spare myself from having to read your garbage and make you suffer through reading mine!

There are many types of Diplomacy players - the basic type is PITIFUL! The most stereotyped example of this type of player is Dave Grabar! Dave has been playing Diplomacy for over a decade, during which time, it is rumored, he has actually written over ten letters. That probably accounts for his playing record of one win every ten years! Not recommended for those who like to win.

Then there is the cross gamer, and the biggest of them all is Woody! He'll call you up and tell you, "If you don't want me to attack you in this game, then you better turn around in the other one." Woody usually manages to get himself attacked by everyone he tries this on; cross gaming is NOT the wave of the future.

Or you might be a Bob Olsen, true PHM player...writes tons of letters, receives tons of letters, and should do very well, but he also has his nemesis, Mike Mazzer. Mazzer can feed Bob the same story over and over and Bob keeps believing him. Bob is just too nice to be a Dip player; he always believes everyone is telling him the truth - rate him gullible.

Then there is the non-Dip player - you know, a Mark Berch or a Bruce Linsey; they play in only one game at a time so that they can write each player at least once a day...take it from me, never trust anyone who writes that much! ((Then again, Berch got his picture on the cover of DIP WORLD after his latest win....))

Then there is the latest group of players, and don't you ever believe they are the inferior sex ((come on, Kathy - we males aren't THAT bad!))....the females ((oops)) have a style all their own - flirt, flatter, and make you feel guilty if you stab them. Definitely a group of players to contend with. (Well, since I'm writing this, I do get to give the girls the best rating!)

Then there are the good solid players; they write, they know the best strategy, and they usually do very well - never play in a game with a bunch of Dippy Dons or Lee Kendters until you have mastered the play of the game, or you'll get squashed! ((It's a good thing AREA ratings don't apply to DIP anymore, or these guys might get wise some day, and the AREA TOP 50 will be the DIPLOMACY TOP 50 as well....))

Perhaps one of the worst types of players is the overconfident one, the guy who really believes that he is going to win every game he joins. A Greg Fritz or a Steve Countermaranche ((another big name!)) can drive you nuts....I like to attack this type of player because I can't stand to listen to what a great player they are.

The above is just ramblings on my part, but still you guys should thank me - I did save you from one page of Don Del Grande!

\*\*\*\*\*Well, not quite one page, but still good enough for \$1 sub credit, like I promised. (By the way, Gary received \$2 credit, not \$1, for last issue's article.)

How do I rate myself? The same as I rate in other wargames - a member of the Dave Grabar school. I like playing them - but I can't seem to get on the winning end of things. (Rumor has it that Avalon Hill has a new playtest system - I play two games, one as each side; if I win one game, it's unbalanced.)

Don't go away....there's more junk - er, articles coming up! Don't forget about the REWARD mentioned back in the front somewhere.

MY DEPARTMENT:

PAGE 5, isn't it?

"You will never find a more wretched hive of scum and villany" ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

# MOS BISLEY SPACEPORT

#31, June 1983

MOS BISLEY is a roving subzeen or column of sorts, put out for sub credit to the more desperate publishers by John Michalski, Rt 10 Box 526-Q, Moore, OK 73165. Personal subscriptions are available to anyone who will buy me a xerox machine of my very own to run these off on. (John Kador, notice that sentence ending). Letters or comments to either me or, better still, the publisher of whatever this appears in, are very appreciated, as it will provide me with filler at the very least, or better, will force the editor to send me another courtesy issue of the zine your letter appears in, and then I can send a reply the NEXT issue, and on and on. The more freebies, the better!

HOBBY NEWS: Well, convention season is almost upon us, but I'll leave the reporting on that stuff to others. I am only interested in the biggie, PudgeCon II at Bob Olsen's place this August 12-14, 6818 Winterberry Circle, Wichita KS 67226. We have pretty definite yeses from each coast, what with Daf & Steve Langley coming from California and Dick & Scrumptious Martin coming in from, uh, the East, wherever it is they're at. (Maryland? Is that east-coast-alique country? I'll have to check with Coughlan to find out for sure). Sadly, Coughlan himself still needs a lot of arm-twisting to get him to come. Seems he has some lame excuse about spending all his money taking Woody to Europe. Isn't that disgusting? Charity has its place, but being nice to Armenian homos should not interfere with hobby duties. To those of you not on Gary's shit list, please write him and urge him to come. I'll go so far as to promise not to lend my magnum squirtgun to Julie if he will show up. Unless Julie asks me really nice... See also, letter below. And, do try to turn up yourself. Don't be frightened off by the presence of all these hobby demi-gods such as myself. We need peons to help fill three boards again! And Sambo's won't know the con is on again unless we can send in hordes of really grubby looking losers this year ~~like the old days~~. I'll bet they even have the chair we broke last year fixed by now. How can you miss out on such a deal? And hey, Mark Berch will not be there!! Or Fluff Shaffer.

Last issue of LOM had an article by Gary C. in it about men, or women, or something like that. It had a few errors I noticed. First, he said there is no male equivalent to the terms "whore", "slut", and "tramp". Well, how about giggilo? Or Camemaster? Then he added that there is no male equivalent to these Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders. Wrong again, Elvis breath! The only controversy is, is the Cheerleader equivalent John Caruso, Terry Tellman, or ~~Abby Me~~? Then he said that when babies in shopping carts see a man alone in the market, they cry. Not so. From my own experience, they not only smile when they see me, they laugh. And, I know the cuts of meat, not Cleodine. ("Damn little else" she says, but she admits I do know that. And it only took me two years of cutting meat to pick that up.)

Now to the famous Blank Bottom of the Page Dept.:

\*\*\*\*\*Why is it that everybody ELSE gets away with blank bottoms of the pages? Too bad I can't make it to PudgeCon, but I have to save my money for ~~extended~~ oops, I meant a ~~round of~~ firm enrollment fees at good old (and I do mean OLD - there's one building that's been there since 1871 which houses the "library library" (library of the Dept. of Library and Info. Studies) - no wonder librarians are always so old) UCB. Well, that and PACIFICON, even though the Diplomacy tournament will never be the same now that all of the Southern Cal types go to GLASC. Still, who gives a damn about them? (Then again, why don't the Northerners go down there?)

Then again again, what will PAGE 6 do?

OK, how about something interesting instead? Letters! First up, our new BNC elect,

KATHY BYRNE (excerpts)

((Referring to the Wilson's smoked pork chops paper I sent her:)) Thanks for the nice stationery! I used it all up and thanks for your nice letter supporting me as the new BNC. I have a feeling I'll need all the support I can get—a few people feel that a much better choice could've been made! But I know I can do the job, and I know I can do it right! Anyway, if I screw it all up, everyone can blame Mike Mills as he was the one who suggested I volunteer! His reasoning was, since most people (himself included) already knew my address, GMs wouldn't have to waste time looking it up! Made sense to me! ((And, you won't have to sub to anything anymore, since you will get courtesy copies of damn near everything...))

As for Bill Quinn, I already told Don I'd only take the job if Bill would stay on—like you, I think he does a super job with Everything!

The more we check airfare, the more it looks like we'll be seeing Oklahoma! ((This refers to flying here to go up to PudgeCon II with me, since you can't get to Wichita from NYC)) We have to wait to see the rates for August, but there is a good chance we'll have to hook up with you! My only question is, will John C. ((Caruso)) make it to Wichita? ((Various plans and efforts are underway to keep Caruso in New York so Kathy can be her uninhibited self here again, all of which I heartily endorse!))

KK should get me in a lot of trouble this month! I don't care—if people don't like my style, they should get the hell out!

((Ah, that eastern liberalism showing through again! But, what was troublesome in KK? All I noticed were the usual attacks on Graber, Woody, Olsen, and me. Oh, maybe Linsey. But hey—I mean hey—he has a house rule against criticism, so he is immune, and from the latest VD I remember seeing, he plugs KK and tells folks to tell you he sent them. What a sense of humor. As for Caruso, I would almost, but not quite, like to see him there, just to see how he handles seeing you get THE single bed, and he getting the floor of the rest of the house like we normal folks do. Of course you could always accept my offer, let him have the bed, and then you and I split for the motel behind the Ailing Steak Restaurant there... Let's see: get us a room with one of those exotic massaging beds, HBO porn, and a phone, so's I could call Claudine and get some instructions on what to do now that I'd finally scored after only three decades of trying...))

Glad the paper came in handy for use to somebody. I see the Martin gang ran sort of a parody or something around one of the stickers that I've been putting on virtually all outbound mail for the past two months, that "Recipe Ready" stuff along with the strange stationery, but in RET, I really couldn't make out half of what he/she/Rad/they were saying; I'll just take it as humor or nonsense myself, as I really couldn't make heads or tails out of any of it. At least the stuff is getting around. I have a ton of it to dispose of.)) J.M.

Somebody else mentioned the weird stationery I sent them for use. I think it was DAF (excerpt)

What lovely stationery! I am sincerely flattered. Still, I'm easy, I like the hamburger paper too. How are things? Things around here are great. I've never been happier (except for the six months I spent at the bordello in El Paso) (Steve doesn't know about that yet, so let's keep it our little secret, Okay?)

((OK. None of you out there mention this to Langley now, hokay?)) J.M.

Just room enough for a quick MARK BERCHE DEPT.:

Weather is nice here in Okla just now, it being the end of the spring rainy season: it rained twice. We're sprucing it up for the new Californians here at our GM plant. Next month, poof, it's back from coach to pumpkin!

\*\*\*\*\*Thanks for a bit of interesting news....well, thanks and \$2 sub credit to LOM, since that's what you asked for, and YOU ASKED FOR IT. Speaking of the Berch department, it's sunny and mild - well, warm - actually, QUITE HOT out here. The smog is back, although nothing at all like down in LA, mainly because there are few factories and fewer cars up here. (Maybe SF is the place where the execs make the decisions and LA is where the workers carry them out....)

Copy this PAGE 7 out somewhere

# DIP WARZ

THE CONCLUSION....Yes, this is the FINAL elisode of the DIP WARZ saga. Don't worry - there'll be a brand-new series beginning soon. Besides, I can always have a sequel, can't I?

ANYWAY, the Rebels are busy preparing their major thrust for victory. In the meantime, Lord Sacks

Fifthavenue is discussing his strategy with the Emperer....

"Tell me, Lord Sacks, what is in the works for the final Imperial victory?"

"Well, sr, uh, there's the, uh, that, um, that thing that's, uh -"

"Not exactly sure of yourself, eh? There are CURES for that, you know."

"Well, it's just the thought of the rebels thinking they can avoid THE ALMIGHTY IMPERIAL TRUE COVENANT!"

"That angers me as well....that's why I want to make sure that the Rebels are as good as finished!"

"As soon as they're as good as found, Almighty Imperial Master Of All That Is Surveyed Including Those Bits Hiding Behind Planets In Ths--"

"ENOUGH already - no wonder everything's behind schedule! We're too busy saying those stupid titles!"

Back on the Rebel Hidden Base....John Pole-o turns to Rod Seaparter with some news concerning the final thrust. "Rod, there's only one way that we can defeat the Imperial Liberals - er, forces."

"What is this method of achieving this final true victory?"

"Are you sure you're not becoming one of them? ANYWAY, I'm not quite sure what you have to do - you'll have to go back to the Graceland system."

"And meet Garra, the Elvi master?"

"Yes - only he can train you enough to lead the attack."

"Lead the attack?! What am I, crazy?"

"Do you REALLY want to know that one?"

"Before I go, what does Garra know that these other people don't?"

"How many hours do you have?"

Now with Rod Seaparter gone, the others can plan the assault with some backup help on the way - "we hope," according to Oboe-1 Caruso.

"Say," says Princess Luscious, "where's ILOM?"

"What, we're stupid or something?" answers Baldo Calberchian. "We put him on the ship with Seaparter - let's see what Garra can do with him!"

In front of the Rebels is a map of deeper-than-deep space. Oboe-1 turns to the Princess. "I'm surprised you didn't say something like 'We shouldn't go into deep space right after eating'."

"Shouldn't we?"

Earl of Peericlees breaks up the conversation. "Hey, how about taking a little time off the discussion to get around to destroying the Empire and making the Universe safe for stabbing?"

Back to the map...."Taking a look at the map," says Baldo, "we can plot the previous courses of the Imperial flagship. They started way over here, moved a bit this way, then curved around like that, some more like this, and - well, we lost them right about here," pointing to the Shaving Cream Planet orbiting the Berkeley star. (Face it - enough elements are named after that place - Berkelium, Californium, Lawrencium - so how about a star? There's a beer planet, of course!) "If they've stayed there long enough, the ultra-radical factors may have increased their powers beyond any measuring methods we can even begin to comprehend." "Just what we need," interrupts Peericlees. "Why don't we just back off to some small corner and regroup?"

"How many times do I have to tell you - there are no corners in deep space!"

"Say, where's that ULTIMATE COMPLETE TRUE FINAL thing you mentioned last time?"

"I forgot about that - but only Seaparter knows!"

"And, in true stupid fashion," says Luscious, "you had to send him off somewhere!" Speaking of Rod....he made his way past all sorts of Imperial outposts, towel salesmen, munchkins (especially on the Gary Gyax planet), and other dreaded evils to get to the Graceland system.

"How do I get to Garra, ILOM?"

"Why don't you try the obvious - head south!"

OK, so they head south....what's that up ahead? A giant thing-eating plant? A large sconomy size Imperial Rebel eliminator?

"Who, me?" No, it's only Garra, the Elvi master. ~~"Not very young"~~



"Who, me?" No, it's only Garra, the Elvi master. "Not-very-young

Seaparter, you have come seeking my help."

"Oh, yes, almighty master of the Elvi, true sovereign of the System, and a few other things that I can't seem to remember at the moment. I wish to become an Elvi Knight just like the great leader of old, Yawn Boring."

"You must take care that you are not taken in by the Left Side like he was. He could have been a great help to us, but it's too late - he's just like one of them now. Yes, the Imperial forces are gaining their strength, preparing for a final elimination of the Rebels and total command of the Diplomatic Universes."

"Universes?"

"Of course - how else can 'parallel universe' variants be played? Anyway, it is now up to you - you are the last hope of the Rebels - you must face Lord Sacks Fifthavenue and destroy him!"

"What about the Emperor?"

"Once Lord Sacks is out of the way, the Emperor and the rest of the forces will crumble like month-old pie crust."

"But how can I destroy Lord Sacks? My talents are not tuned enough to defeat him."

"No, they aren't, are they? You don't have to worry about that - just as long as you remember that you hold the FINAL solution - the COMPLETE victory - the - the - how does that go?"

"True peacemaker?"

"Something like that....come this way....over these trees....under the overpasses....here it is!"

"It's just a DIPLOMACY box....you must be slipping!"

"Rod, you must believe in me at all times - and don't question that statement if you want to be an Elvi!" Garra opens the box.

"It's a wooden block! Didn't they use to use those in Diplomacy?"

"It's more than that - this is the weapon that will guide our cause to victory - and only in your hands can its true powers be unleashed against the enemy!"

"Unleashed - is there a dog in there?"

"Well, we did take the late Trouble and compact him somewhat, but this is more than that - this is the ultimate power of Diplomacy - you must believe in the power of - THE BOURSE!"

Loud organ music (as in 2001) can be heard. "Quiet up there! I can't stand those guys! Rod, take this and use it well. It will guide you to the final victory!"

The block starts pointing upward. "There is Lord Sacks! You know what you must do."

"You're the Elvi - you tell me!"

"That's right....have your allies mass together and lead them to the new super weapon - it must be destroyed!"

"Is the new super weapon in operation?" Lord Sacks asks the construction captain.

"Well, uh-"

"ENOUGH!" Lord Sacks unleashes his powerful fury against the Captain.

By the way, the Captain can now be found as a turnoff on the Imperial Highway somewhere within the Imperial Graveyard system.

"Alert! Alert! Unidentified ship entering the area!"

"How many passengers?"

"Power readings off the scale!"

Suddenly, Rod Seaparter appears onboard. "Surprise, Lord Sacks!"

"You will meet the same fate as the rest of the Rebels!" Lord Sacks whips out a light saber. Rod does likewise. Suddenly, he hears Garra's voice. "Use the Bourse! Feel its power around you! Now go after Lord Sacks!" Rod approaches Lord Sacks.

Lord Sacks drops his light saber, pulls out his phaser, and fires at Rod, who vanishes in a puff of smoke and some special effects resembling a large explosion. "That's what happens when you listen to somebody from the south!"

The Rebels, not knowing about Rod's destruction, approach the flagship to accept surrender. "Give up, Emperor?"

"Tastes this!" Lord Sacks' voice booms over the speakers. "Towels away!"

"TOWELS??!!!" That was the last thing the Rebel ship transmitted before being blasted into oblivion.

As a result, the rebel cause was slowly and painfully eliminated, and

the Imperial Forces ruled over the Diplomatic Empire for untold numbers of eternities - even Garra capitulated to the superior powers.

What did you expect - a happy ending? That wouldn't have been too true-to-life, now would it?

I-WONDER-HOW-MANY-PEOPLE-ACTUALLY-READ-DIP-WARZ-I-HEARD-IT-WAS-POPULAR-STUFF-OH-WE

It's THE RETURN OF THE LETTERS, featuring Pete Tamlyn from somewhere in Britain, home of the Reagan Lookalikes....

Thanks for the letter. It's nice to know that California is still real. I'm not sure that the layout of power structures is going to cause as much hassle as you think. I did see your ((ILLUMINATI house)) rules and finally rejected the graph idea because I thought it was an unnecessary complication. There might be problems if a player didn't have a copy of the game and thus couldn't lay the structure out himself but I can't imagine anyone trying to play without the game - after all, I won't be publishing power, resistance and income figures so you need the game to find out what they are. It is possible to get in a bit of a mess with your power structure but as the designers have not included any cards with an incoming control arrow on the long side of the card the problems are far less severe than one might think from contemplation of arrangements of rectangles. If it does turn out that we have an argument in the course of the playtest I shall apologise profusely and include your rule in all future games.

Pete Doubleday is amazing, but you have exactly the right attitude for dealing with him. Whenever he gets at you just pretend that it must be some terrible mistake and such a wonderful person as him couldn't possibly mean it really. Keep up the good work. We'll have him paranoid yet!

I've heard a lot about Bruce Linsey's house rules and I don't think that I really want to see them. ((Smart!)) However, I must agree with Bruce on the point you quoted. Of course A VEN-TRO is ambiguous. My first impression was that it was a misprint for A Ven-Tri but it then occurred to me that Tro could be an abbreviation for Tyrolia. I don't know which one the player meant ((the latter)) and would certainly have ruled the order illegal. A more strict GM than myself (Richard Hucknall for example) would have ruled it illegal anyway because the player used capital letters throughout for land provinces ((WHAT??)) but I think that would be a bit much.

If you really want to prove that Britain is declining get hold of a copy of Lokasenna or Devner Glont. Even Doubleday has apoplexy over them.

\*\*\*\*For those who don't understand - I had a paper on "Is Britain Declining?" and I told Tamlyn that I'd probably hand in an issue of The Thing On The Mat with the words "Would a non-declining country come up with this?" Instead, I wrote a paper - and got a C. On top of that, I had two finals (a week apart) on Saturdays at 8 AM! Wake me up in time for next semester, OK?

How many pages done so far? Ten, huh? That leaves five for this 16-pager, since one page is used for the mailing label. I only hope I don't have to charge more than 65¢ for this issue, but the Xeroxing costs may be higher during the summer. Speaking of summer, don't be in a state of shock if my next issue comes out in late August or even after Labor Day, but I'm busy looking for summer jobs; besides, I can't afford to go into Berkeley too often to get this stuff done....

Late news: Kathy Byrne came out of another round of surgery, but the cause of her problems is still unknown. Will Kathy remember this when she tries to smoke at DIPCON? Some people NEVER learn.

I've got just enough room to say that BILL THOMPSON, JOHN KADOR, and JOHN DALE finished 1-2-3 at MARYCON....

THIS IS PAGE 10-10-10

We interrupt the normally scheduled 'zine to take you right back to DIP WARZ....by some INCREDIBLY FANTASTIC and UTTERLY AMAZING chance, one of the original members of the Diplomatic Rebels stumbled onto a time-travel device. Using quick thinking, he quickly thought, "If I go back in time to when Rod Seaparter met Lord Sacks, I may be able to save us from this mess!"

\*\*\*\*\*ZAP bing WOW oooooohhhh BOLING bounce\*\*\*\*\*

The next thing he knew, he was standing between Rod and Lord Sacks just as Sacks pulled out his weapon and tried to zap Rod, only to zap our new hero. Some people just aren't very lucky.

"The Bourse is with you, not-very-young Seaparter! Let's see how good you are with that thing!" Lord Sacks takes out his own light saber and the two swing in true STAR WARS style. Seaparter cuts a beautiful overhead arc, but Lord Sacks matches the blow with an excellent parry. Seaparter continues with swings to alternating sides, each of which meets Lord Sacks' weapon harmlessly. So far, no ~~Misad~~ action.

However, since Rod wasn't destroyed, the Rebel ship was able to home in on the Imperial flagship. "Prepare to destroy the flagship!"

"Hold it, Poleo!" says Calberchian. "Seaparter is on that ship."

"Tough luck! We all have to go sometime." Just then, Garra's voice fills the ship. "Do not worry about young Seaparter - he has THE BOURSE to protect him. You must act fast!"

The ship charged its weapons. "Load LOM game openings!"

"We have to make extra sure - gat those LOM results from EMPIRES OF THE MIDDLE AGES!"

"I know this calls for desperate measures, but-"

Well, they were loaded anyway. "Prepare to fire!"

Back at the duel...."Join the Left Side, Seaparter!"

"Never!"

"Taste this!" A forward thrust, successfully dodged. Seaparter comes in from the blind side, but the shot is blocked.

"Rebel forces bearing 160 mark 50 closing fast! What should we do?"

"Load the NEW weapon!"

"Are you sure? It's very-"

"Are you challenging ME? After Seaparter, you're next!" CLASH CLANG, which are strange noises for light sabers. More like BUZZ BLAST, actually. Right at that moment, Rod trips over a bulge in the Imperial carpet. Lord Sacks prepares to deal the final blow....

"Fire weapons!" WHOOOOSH.

"It looks like a direct hit....5...4...3...2...1..."

**B.O.M.B.** A direct hit - the Imperial flagship went up in a cloud of space dust. Provided, of course, that clouds of space dust could be actually detected.

"Imperials destroyed!"

"But - where's Seaparter?" Yes - where DID he go? "Hey, Garra - what happened to THE BOURSE?"

"Maybe Rod's country just got knocked out?"

Oh, well....at least the rest of the Rebels managed to make it. Without the tyranny of The Emperor, the Rebels restored freedom to 99% of all known locations in the Galaxies anywhere in the immediate area. There were massive celebrations celebrating the victory, which was victorious indeed. Say, whatever happened to Rod Seaparter?

Who cares? Where is THE BOURSE now?

"Just look in a box of DIPLOMACY units."

What are those plastic things? I guess THE BOURSE is hidden somewhere. It looks like the true freedom lies in somebody finding those wooden blocks of THE BOURSE. Without one to use as a guide, it's going to be hard....what's this? Seaparter's piece survived the big bang and managed to land on Princess Luscious's head?

"Yes - and now THE BOURSE will guide you to the TRUE victory, IF you are CAREFUL and WILLING and not STUPID and-"

"Enough of the capitals, Garra! Well, shall we go to it?"

So much for part I of the DIP WARZ saga....tune in again VERY soon for another series in this saga. Say, where's Lord Sacks?

"It takes more than an explosion to destroy the Left Side...."

It takes PAGE 11, I think

**RULES AND REGULATIONS concerning the BERCH BABY POOL (NOT "POLL" - check the spelling carefully or you could miss out)**

1. To enter the pool, submit the date and time of birth, as well as the sex, of Mark and Mona Berch's new baby. Each entry costs 50¢ in American money. There is no limit to the number of times any person may enter.
2. The time of birth will be rounded to the nearest 5 minutes; for example, 2:33 becomes 2:35, while 2:32 becomes 2:30. (This is to make sure that a more-or-less accurate time is reached.) If a sex other than the two obvious ones is given, I will assume that you didn't list a sex, which carries the same penalty as guessing the wrong sex (see below). Should someone else have already guessed the same time and sex, the time will be moved ahead 5 minutes; if this time is taken, the time will be moved to 5 minutes before the time listed on the guess, then ahead 10, back 10, ahead 15, and so on until an unguessed time is reached. For example, if 3:00 is taken, the following order is used: 3:05, 2:55, 3:10, 2:50, 3:15, 2:45,.... The sex will not be changed.
3. Guesses, in order to be accepted, must contain a date and time, must be paid for, must be postmarked no later than 14 days before the birth date, and must arrive no later than the date of birth. If no sex is listed, it will still be accepted, but the sex will be counted as the incorrect one in determining the winner.
4. The winner is determined in the following manner: the "time differential" is calculated as the amount of time between your guess and the time of birth (adjusted, if necessary). If the sex is not guessed correctly, 72 hours is added to the differential. The person with the guess of the lowest differential wins. In case of a tie, correct sex wins over incorrect sex, and, for equal sex guesses, the earlier time wins. (Earlier time guessed for the birth - not earliest postmark.) "Time guessed" is considered after adjustments for somebody else having already made that guess, but before the 72-hour penalty, and is considered EDT unless otherwise noted.
5. Should the baby's sex be determined and released before birth, the baby's sex will not be a factor in the pool.
6. **DISTRIBUTION OF THE MONEY:** First, there's my cut - zero. Next, Mark and Mona's share - nothing. Consolation prizes take up naught. The remainder - 100% of the pool money - goes to the winner as determined in rule 4.
7. **SPECIAL BONUS PRIZE:** Thanks to the generosity of Mark Berch, if the winner is a subscriber to **DIPLOMACY DIGEST**, 4 issues will be added to his or her subscription.
8. Guesses will not be revealed.
9. **LIFE OF MONTY** personnel (i.s. ME) will not be allowed to enter the contest. All other hobbyists, including, but not limited to, players, publishers, gods, onlookers, and even you **KINGMAKER** types who probably don't know who Mark Berch is, are welcome to enter.

That's enough for the rules - let's see some action! I can tell you that, as of June 10, I have all of TWO guesses....and Mark Berch gave me the only plug. (At least his circulation is 115, and the plug was right below the title, so a lot of people saw it.) How about it, **WHITESTONIA**, **EUROPA EXPRESS**, **VOICE OF DOOM**, etc.? (I hope that none of you are currently in non-speaking terms with Mark....)

Speaking of **DIPLOMACY DIGEST**....most of you probably subscribe anyway, but those of you who don't are missing reprints of long-past articles written by some of the hobby's legends, plus the latest in hobby news. Besides, how many 'zines sell for 40¢ each? Mark Berch, 492 Naylor Place, Alexandria, VA 22304.

Just because this is PAGE 12 doesn't mean the 'zine's over yet

Just when you thought it was safe to read this 'zine again....

## "THE MEANING OF LIFE" OF MONTY

by Gary L. Coughlan

Well, Life Of Monty has now been around for three years. It doesn't seem that long to me but for three years now, this zine that you are now reading has been jiggelating my luhtisibles. Perhaps yours too?

Anyway I started thinking of all the things that LOM means and decided to send it in as an article for the anniversary issue. See if some of my experiences compare to yours.... ((OK, I will))

First, LOM is meaningless unless you understand that its pubber, Don Del Grande, is an avid fan of the British humor (uh, sorry Don, humour) group, Monty Python. That funny foot on page one is on the cover of one of their comedy albums ((and on the titles of each of their TV shows)). Their latest movie is The Meaning of Life and is about live liver donors and vomiting. Let's hope Don selects only the best parts to incorporate into LOM!

When I first asked for a sample to LOM, Don wrote me that he was all out and I would have to wait for the next issue! I still haven't experienced this situation again, ha ha! LOM is like Playboy without the centerfolds, i.e. the issue that comes out in May is called the June issue and the issue that comes out in June is the July issue. Only the postmark knows for sure!

Were you like me last month when you got LOM #35 and found out that the previous issue was only #30? ((Yes)) No wonder John Michalski's sub is running out fast! I'm glad I trade with Don, ha ha!

LOM is the only zine which provides its subbers with t-shirts. I am proudly wearing my LOM t-shirt as I type this. It's a good shirt too and I wear it to work often where I'm usually asked, "Who's Monty?" (Memphis is a little slow, remember!) I say that I got tired of my life so I decided to become Monty. They wouldn't understand the real story anyway!

Each time LOM comes in the mail, Don has used a different color flair pen and each issue also has a different stamp than the previous issue. What could a psychologist make of this? One time, Don put 18 one-cent stamps on my LOM as a postal test to see if all the stamps would be cancelled. My postman is used to seeing strange mail by now.

Inside LOM each page tells a story at the bottom. My favorite was page 8 in LOM #29 which said: "You know as well as PAGE 8 does that the FUDGE FACTOR is rather arbitrary - but as I always say, the best system is no system. The reductions didn't come out too well - that's why the smudges." It might not make total sense but it's totally Del Grande!

And who is Don Del Grande and what makes him that way? I think it has something to do with him being an Italian (yes, it's true!) with a Spanish-sounding name living in California while passionately admiring British humour and who has never heard of Big Star, Kroger or Montesi but likes canned spaghetti and meatballs. I am totally convinced that the answer lies in there somewhere.

What else could explain the brain that could come up with the fantastic "Dip Bowls" in almost every issue month after month. This is my favorite feature of LOM but it is closely followed by the newest adventure series, "Dip Warz". I can't wait to find out who the emperor really is. It might even be John Boardman as LOM is the only zine I've ever heard of Boardman playing in. (It was awhile back in a game called "Empires of the Middle Ages", I think.)

I don't know if Don is sending the anniversary issue out as a sample but if he is, I suggest you sub to it. If the FUDGE FACTOR is not to your liking, LOM comes up with other things you need to know like...if someone comes after you with a raspberry what is the proper response? If you read LOM #30, you would know that it is to unleash a tiger on them. (Not to be confused with unleashing a crocodile - that's only for people who attack you with a peach.)

Anyway, Don's unluqua sense of humor will keep me subbing for a long time and I hope Life of Monty's next three years are as much fun as these first three have been. (Don, you really are of Spanish descent, aren't you?)

No... this is PAGE 13, I suppose (I don't usually get up this high, pagewise)

\*\*\*\*\*No, I'm not...I ought to take away the \$1 credit, but I won't.  
I'll answer these charges....

First, the title is not from The Meaning Of Life, but a combination of the first two "history movies", MONTY PYTHON & THE HOLY GRAIL and LIFE OF BRIAN. I won't cover THE MEANING OF LIFE in this 'zine. Next, samples - I'm loaded down with extra issues! I send as many samples as the postage pays for. The issues are dated a month in advance because I didn't want people complaining how late it was!

LOMshirts are once again available - the cost is \$9 postpaid PLUS lettering costs - 10¢ per small letter or 15¢ per large letter. ("Small" and "Large" refer to actual size - all letters are capitals) Colors? Shirts come in black, red, brown, beige, lt. blue, dk. blue, green, and yellow; letters are black, white, gold, silver, and maroon. (Maybe also yellow - my shirt is yellow on green, Kathy Byrne's is yellow on red (of course - it was my idea), Gary's is maroon on beige, and John Caruso's is white on red)

I only use three colors of pen, depending on what I have at the moment - black, blue, and red. I use the stamps because I'm a small-scale collector - I have the 50 birds/flowers and an unbroken block of 8 space shuttle stamps, as well as an unbroken block of 4 1980 Winter Olympic stamps.

The stories at the page bottoms were as a result of trying to reduce 11 inches to 8½. The one-centers were a form of protest against the price raises. If you're ever near San Francisco between 1 and 4 PM on weekdays (Pacific time - the later hours may have some carry), tune in 810 AM and you'll know where my idea came from.

I'm glad SOMEBODY likes Dip Bowls - they're getting tougher to do, though. Maybe if I go back into my 'zine collection deeper.... And did you know John Boardman had 2 NMRs in that game?

I've got 1½ pages left - it's between a DIP BOWL and some Python (MAYBE I can squeeze in both). I'm working on Dip Bowl questions for PEERICON, so it's time for MPFC, not to be taken internally....

Good evening. Tonight, dinosaurs. I have here sitting with me in the studio next to me, an elk - I'm sorry, Anne Elk. Mrs. Anne Elk.

Miss. (Miss Elk's lines are indented)

Miss Anne Elk, who is an expert-

No, Anne Elk.

What?

Anne Elk, not Anne Expert.

No, I was saying that you, Miss Ele, were A-N, not A-N-N-E, expert.

Oh.

On elks - I'm sorry, on dinosaurs.

Yes, I am, how very true, my word, yes.

Now, Miss Elk, Anne, you have a new theory about the Brontosaurus.

Can I just say here for one minute that I have a new theory about the Brontosaurus?

Exactly. What is it?

Where?

No, what is your theory?

Oh, what is my theory? My theory that it is, yes, well, you may well ask.

I am asking!

And well you may. Yes, my word, you may well ask what it is, this theory of mine. Well, this theory I have, and which is mine, is mine.

I know it's yours - what is it?

Where - oh, my theory! Ah, my theory, that I have, follows the lines I am about to relate. (Clears throat and coughs for 30 seconds)

The theory, by A. Elk - that's A for Anne; it's not by a elk.

Right.

This theory, which belongs to me, is as follows. (Cough cough)

This is how it goes. (Cough cough) The next thing that I am about to say is my theory. (Cough cough) Ready? The theory by A. Elk brackets miss brackets. My theory is along the following lines:

This PAGE 14, which is mine, is mine,  
and I wrote it, so it's mine

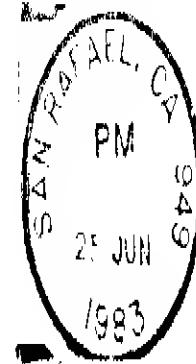
Brontosaurus are thin at one, much much thicker in the middle, and thin again at the far end. This is the theory that I have and which is mine and what it is too.  
That's it, is it? Well, Anne, this theory of yours seems to have hit the nail on the head.  
And it's mine.  
Thank you for coming along to the etudio.  
My pleasure.  
Britain's newest wasp farm-  
I have another theory.  
Not today, thank you.  
My theory number two which is the second that I have. (cough cough)  
This theory-  
Shut up!  
-is what I am about to say-  
Please SHUT UP!  
-which with what I have said are the two theories that are mine and which belong to me-  
Look, if you don't shut up, I shall shoot you!  
(cough cough) My theories, which I possesses the ownership of- (BANG)  
(cough cough) The theory the second, by Anne Elk-(RATATATATATATAT)

So much for that....there's just enough epace to get DIP BOWL started!  
"Here's the tossup....first it was SPI, then Avalon Hill, now Parker Brokers gets punished by, for 10 points, having what Dip quasi-celeb in their employment?" (BUZZZZ)  
"New Yorkers, Swider....what's a Parker Brother?"  
"Look, I ask the questions! Can you take it, Whitestonia?" (RRRING)  
"Institute of Nuclear Holocaust, Carueo....Rerun Moon"  
"I'll have to look that one up - all of my GENERALS say 'Alan'"  
"Rerun Alan?"  
"That's close enough!"  
Could YOU have answered that question? Could you have answered ANY of them? It's time to match stabs with the champions in America's favorite game but louey history, the varsity eport of the mouth,  
(I wanted to save space for the)dip bowl(action...besides, I have no labels)

Today, the Whitestonia Inetitute of Nuclear Holocaust (Kathy Byrne, Steve Heinoweki, John Caruso, and Dave Grabar) face the New Yorkers (Mike Barno, Mark Matuschak, Phyllis Byrne, and Tom Swider), all the way from Berkeley, CA....late in the match, the Whitestonia team has a small lead of about 320 to 10....  
"The next bonus is worth 25 points - here's the toseup: for 10 points, name Avalon Hill's first game which dealt with a historical battle."  
(BUZZZZ) "New Yorkers, P. Byrne....Foul! Foul! That's a repeat question! That was from issue #17!"  
"Well, I, er, uh-"  
"No wonder they're winning!" says Barno. "They've probably studied the hack ieague!"  
"That's a lie!" answers Grahbar. "Just the ones we were told to st-mmmpf"  
John Carueo pute his hand over Grahbar's mouth. "Shut up! Or would you rather be using a wheelchair to our next match?"  
"Uh, let's get things in order - okay, cool things down! We don't want things any hotter."  
This gives Phyllis an idea. "Phyllis," says Kathy, "put that flamethrower AWAY!"  
WHOOOOOOSH - "Phyllis, control that thing!!" When the smoke cleared, the teams were missing! "Who comee back?"  
Alan Moon comee in. "How about ue?"  
Who, Parker Brothers? Not very likely.  
"I was thinking of the old Avalon Hill team...." Here comes Greenwood-  
"Take a hike! Go play MONOPOLY while our R&D etaff loses a man. Our gamee aren't good enough, are they? Or is it those losses in FOOTBALL STRATEGY? Look - we're not changing the rules to allow you two rolls for field goals!" Well, that ends the third anniversary issue - who knows? There may even be another issue within two months, but it'll be hard to get it done. (I'm not folding - just taking a summer slowdown. I have to travel 30 miles just to get things copied - and 30 miles more to label and stamp them!!)

just to say that this is PAGE 15

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